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Dated: December 31, 2004

Signature:

(Ronald E. Cahill)

Docket No.: 22956-71

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: I. McRury et al.

Application No.: 10/024,625

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: December 18, 2001

Examiner: B. Pantuck

For: SUTURE WELDING SYSTEM AND METHOD

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop AF  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

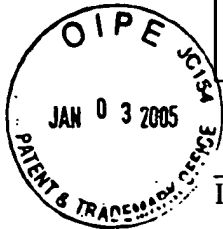
Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 2, 2004, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.



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DO NOT ENTER ✓ BCP 01-25-05